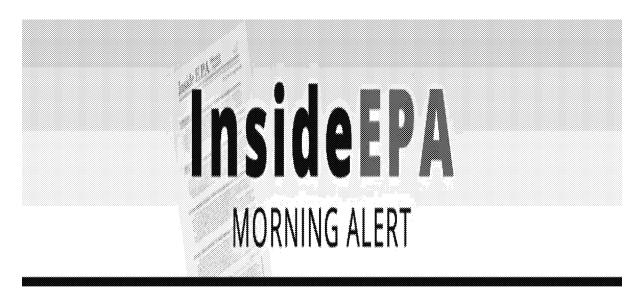
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Subject: The Morning Headlines from InsideEPA.com -- February 5, 2019



REDEFINING EPA: Overhauling an agency and its mission -- Complete coverage

February 5, 2019

### **Latest News**

# **EPA Eyes End To NSR Compliance Priority, Adding Water And Lead Goals**

EPA is proposing new compliance initiatives (NCIs) for fiscal years 2020-2023 that include eliminating the agency's priority on enforcing the Clean Air Act new source review (NSR) permit program, while adding new priorities on noncompliance with drinking water standards and reducing children's exposures to lead.

## Wheeler Faces Criticism On MATS Rollback But Senate Confirmation Likely

Sen. Tom Carper (D-DE) is urging Acting EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler to drop his rollback of the Obamaera power plant air toxics rule as a condition for winning support to be permanent agency chief, but his confirmation appears likely regardless and supporters of the rule are eyeing other options to challenge the rollback.

## Rao's Work On EPA Rollbacks Tees Up Fight At Senate D.C. Circuit Hearing

The Senate Judiciary Committee's Feb. 5 hearing on White House regulatory chief Neomi Rao's nomination to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit tees up a fight over her work on EPA and other agency rollbacks of Obama-era policies, with environmentalists urging senators to block her confirmation.

### **Environmentalists Seek To Uphold Broad Pipeline NEPA GHG Precedent**

Environmental groups are seeking to persuade a key appellate court to re-confirm its landmark 2017 ruling requiring the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to consider upstream and downstream greenhouse gas impacts of natural gas pipeline projects, though FERC is trying to limit the precedent by arguing such reviews are unnecessary if the end users of the gas are not known.

# California Backs Sweeping PM NAAQS Attainment Plan But Criticism Persists

California air board officials have adopted a sweeping plan for the San Joaquin Valley to attain four different fine particulate matter (PM 2.5) standards over the next six years, but many environmentalists remain critical and skeptical of the plan in part because it relies on over \$4 billion of worth of unidentified "financial incentives."

Daily Feed

#### Wheeler meets with CARB's Nichols on vehicle GHGs

The acting EPA chief also reiterated several Trump administration talking points, signaling it intends to press forward with an aggressive rollback and a challenge to California's regulatory authority.

### Industry coalition pulls out of appeal in CWA rule delay challenge

Several industry groups are dropping their role in the 4th Circuit appeal of a district court decision that reinstated the Obama-era jurisdiction rule for 22 states.

## Former DOJ lawyer Shafer Berman joins law firm Crowell & Moring

Amanda Shafer Berman's decision to leave the Department of Justice (DOJ) is the latest staff departure that observers say signals a 'brain drain' from DOJ's environment division.

### 4th Circuit remands, vacates pipeline permit

The federal appeals court has granted the Army Corps of Engineers' request to remand and vacate the use of Clean Water Act general permit for the Atlantic Coast Pipeline.

## Ewire: Climate hearings, Wheeler vote on tap for busy Hill week

In today's Ewire: House Democrats will debate climate change risks in a pair of hearings this week, while Senate Republicans are expected to advance Andrew Wheeler's nomination to lead EPA permanently.

## EPA signs MOU to boost agriculture nutrient-reduction technology

EPA is agreeing to bolster its work with the Water Research Foundation on nutrient reductions at agriculture operations, including cooperating on identifying new technologies for wider use.

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